



Welcome to the  
Probate and Family Court  
Department of the  
Massachusetts Trial Court.

Many Probate and  
Family Law matters  
involve complex and  
valuable legal rights.  
You should always  
speak with an attorney  
before filing any papers.

# LOOKING FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE?

This booklet  
contains a list of  
Lawyer Referral Services,  
Free Legal Resources and  
Legal Aid Agencies in

BRISTOL COUNTY

## LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES

## LEGAL RESOURCES

The  
Massachusetts  
Trial Court  
provides free  
legal resources

## MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

### LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced  
fee panel.

Call (617) 654-0400 or (800) 392-6164

e-mail: [lrs@massbar.org](mailto:lrs@massbar.org)

To register online, visit

[www.massbar.org/lawhelp/](http://www.massbar.org/lawhelp/)

## BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

### LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel.  
Serves mainly Greater Boston, inside Route 495, but will  
provide referrals throughout Massachusetts.

Call (617) 742-0625 or e-mail: [lrs@bostonbar.org](mailto:lrs@bostonbar.org)

For more information, visit

[www.bostonbar.org/lrs/index](http://www.bostonbar.org/lrs/index)

## LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE OF

### BRISTOL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Referrals to private attorneys in Bristol County.

Call (508) 990-1303 or

(800) 647-5151

### MASSACHUSETTS JUDICIAL BRANCH WEB SITE

The official web site of the Judicial Branch includes  
judicial profiles, addresses, phone numbers and  
directions for courthouses as well as other useful  
information about the Trial Court. Click on  
[www.state.ma.us/courts](http://www.state.ma.us/courts)

### BRISTOL LAW LIBRARY

Superior Courthouse

9 Court Street

Taunton, MA 02780

### FALL RIVER LAW LIBRARY

Superior Courthouse

441 North Main Street

Fall River, MA 02720

### NEW BEDFORD LAW LIBRARY

Superior Courthouse

441 County Street

New Bedford, MA 02740 (continued on next page)

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries are open to the public, providing legal reference services and legal research assistance. The libraries are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Ask at the Registry of Probate for the Law Libraries pamphlet which provides more details.

Call (508) 824-7632 (Taunton), (508) 676-8971 (Fall River) or (508) 992-8077 (New Bedford) or visit the Law Libraries web site [www.lawlib.state.ma.us](http://www.lawlib.state.ma.us)

#### TEL-LAW

Tel-Law is a collection of recorded messages designed to answer basic questions about the law. Tel-Law is fully automated and you can access it 24 hours/day by calling (617) 338-0669. (Toll charges may apply)

#### WEB SITE

The MBA's web site offers answers to basic legal questions. Point your browser to [www.massbar.org](http://www.massbar.org)

#### DIAL-A-LAWYER

The first Wednesday of every month you can get free legal help, by telephone, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Lawyer volunteers staff phones to answer your questions.

Call (617) 338-0610

#### NEW CENTER FOR LEGAL ADVOCACY

257 Union Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
(800) 244-9023

Serves Acushnet, Attleboro, Berkley, Dartmouth, Dighton, Easton, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, New Bedford, Norton, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea, Taunton and Westport. Handles guardianships and family law cases with priority given to cases involving domestic abuse.

#### SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS LEGAL ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

Handles guardianships and family law cases for primary caretaker. Priority given to cases involving domestic abuse. Call (800) 244-9023

Fall River Office  
30 Third Street, 3rd Floor  
Fall River, MA  
02720-3041

New Bedford Office  
21 South Sixth Street  
New Bedford, MA  
02740-5997

Serves Berkley, Dighton,  
Fall River, Freetown,  
Raynham, Seekonk,  
Somerset, Swansea,  
Taunton and Westport.

Serves Acushnet,  
Dartmouth, Dighton,  
Fairhaven, Mattapoisett  
and New Bedford.

#### LEGAL ADVOCACY & RESOURCE CENTER

Provides telephone information, pro se assistance and referrals to legal service agencies. Intake hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Call (800) 342-5297

#### LAWYER OF THE DAY

Private, volunteer attorney offers brief consultation at the courthouse providing basic legal advice to qualifying individuals on a walk-in basis. Attorney does not continue to advise the individual after initial meeting or accompany individual into the courtroom. Attorney may not be available every day. For availability, call (508) 824-4004 x275 or ask at the Registry of Probate.

Free  
resources  
offered by the  
Massachusetts  
Bar Association

LEGAL  
SERVICE  
AGENCIES  
These resources  
are available  
only to very  
low income and  
elderly  
individuals

LAWYER  
OF THE  
DAY